TEH DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The report submitted by the High Level Committee (Athreya Committee) set up for recommending the most appropriate structure for the Telecom Department is still under consideration of the Government. Organisational structure as finally decided will be applicable for the territorial Telecom Circles as well as the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.

Telephone connections to village Panchayats

2322. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Panchayats which have been provided telephone facility, State-wise so far; and

(b) whether Government have any plan to provide this facility to all Panchayats in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof stating time and allocation of money?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A total of 48,922 Village Panchayats have been provided with telephone facility as on 30-11-1991. State-wise details are given in enclosed statement. (See below( )

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have planned to provide telephone faciilty to all Panchayat Villages in the country progressively by 31-3-1995 Rs. 2,600 crores have been allocated for this work.

Statement

Status of gram panchayats provided with Telephones facility as on 30-11-1991.

S.No.	Circle/State	Gram Panchayats provided with Telephone facility.
1	Andhra Pradesh	4945
2	Assam	459
3	Bihar	5141
4	Gujarat	2859
	Dadra Nagar Daman & Diu	16
5	Haryana	1310
6	Himachal Pradesh	845
7	Jammu & Kashmir	382
8	Karnataka	3824
9	Kerala L. Deep Island	981
10	Madhya Pradesh	4790
11	Maharashtra	4714
12	Goa	106

S. No.	Circle/State	Gram Panchayats provided with Telephone facility
12	North East Arunachal Pradesh Manipur Meghalaya Mizoram Nagaland Tripura	236
13	Orissa	1812
14	Punjab	1231
15	Rajasthan	2657
16	Tamil Nadu	7074
	Pondicherry	11
17	Uttar Pradesh	4350
18	West Bengal	1020
	A&N Islands	11
	Sikkim	29
19	Delhi (U,T,)	121
	TOTAL :	48922

STD facility to Village Panchayats

2323. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide S.T.D. facility to every Village Panchayat during current financial year;

(b) if so, the details of scheme with names of Village Panchayats to be covered during current financial year;

(c) whether villagers of Panchayat have to pay subsidised charges while using S.T.D. facility;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to provide this facility to district headquarters; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government have planned to provide telephone facility in every Panchayat Village progressively by March, 1995. A proposal for providing STD facility from these telephones is being examined and details are being worked out.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Out of 479 District Headquarters, 427 have been provided with N.S.D. facility so far. The remaining District Headquarters are planned for provisions of STD facility during the current financial year.

Facility of Speed Post in Rajasthan and Orissa

2324. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of cities in Rajasthan and Orissa where the